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For Immediate Release

CONTACT: Sarah Davis (520) 388-8458 Jennifer Ruyle (520) 388-8351

Southern Arizona Resource Advisory Committee to Accept Project Proposals

TUCSON, AZ (November 03, 2010) – The public is encouraged to propose projects designed to improve Coronado and Tonto National Forest lands and the rural economies of local counties. Project funding was made available through Title II funds under the reauthorized Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act (Public Law 110-343.) Completed project applications must be submitted electronically or postmarked by 5:00 p.m. on January 31, 2011.

Project application forms are available at the Coronado National Forest web site http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/coronado, from Coronado National Forest Supervisor's Office, 300 W. Congress, Tucson, AZ 85701, or Tonto National Forest Supervisor's Office, 2324 E. McDowell Road, Phoenix, AZ 85006. Applicants for Title II funds are encouraged to submit their forms electronically. E-mail Title II applications to Sarah Davis at sldavis@fs.fed.us. Proposals may also be mailed to Coronado National Forest Supervisor's Office in care of Sarah Davis.

Title II projects fund work such as restoring watersheds, decommissioning roads, removing noxious and invasive weeds, conservation education, thinning trees, enhancing recreation sites and maintaining roads and trails. The funds are made available to Pima, Maricopa, Cochise, Santa Cruz and Pinal counties which receive federal funds based on the percentage of land in federal ownership, timber receipt payments, and per capita income. At this time \$830,000 is available for RAC recommendations.

"The work of the Resource Advisory Committee to review and recommend Title II Projects will benefit forest health, recreation, and fish and wildlife habitat on the national forest in addition to enhancing local economies. Our strengthened partnership with county officials and community members is a valuable part of our work under the Secure Rural Schools and Communities Act," said Forest Supervisor Jim Upchurch, Coronado National Forest.

Individuals, non-profit organizations, and local governments can submit Title II project applications. The funds for approved projects are available for 2011-2012 implementation.

Additional information concerning Title II projects is available at the national Forest Service website: www.fs.fed.us/srs. Applicants may also contact Sarah Davis, Coronado National Forest at (520) 388-8458 or Jennifer Ruyle, Coronado National Forest at (520) 388-8351.